

# University of Alaska Southeast

# WHALESONG

April 6 - 19, 2015

The Official Student Newspaper of UAS



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# ON THE COVER...

UAS students, Felix Thillet and Zebadiah Bodine, get into character on stage as they rehearse a scene from the UAS Theatre Department's upcoming production of Anton Chekhov's *The Sneez*, directed by Christina Apathy. This will be the final production to ever be shown in Hendrickson 113. For more information, turn to page 6!

(Photograph by Darin Donohue)

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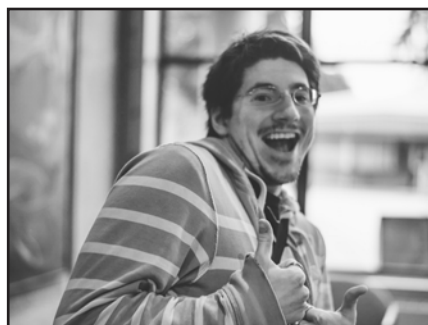


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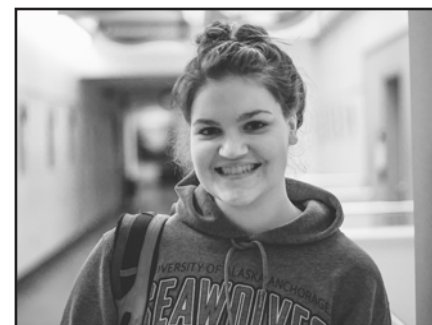
# — UAS Answers — *Everybody's got one ...*

*What class are you most excited  
about taking next semester?*



"My English classes!"

-Anthony Johnston



"Chemistry."

-Jamie Messerschmidt



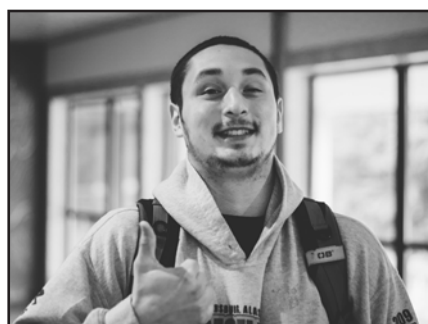
"Human Anatomy."

-Miranda Cuzio



"Physics and Music Appreciation."

-Dave Alvarado



"I'm all done after this semester!"

-Cody Williams



"Sea Kayaking!"

-Olivia Lihou



# — UAS in Brief —



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# — UAS' 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Oratory Competition —

**BY JASMINE MATTSON-WOLFF, Kóot Xheech**  
*For the UAS Whalesong*

What is the Oratory Competition? Essentially the Oratory Competition is public speaking on topics that impact you in some way. There were 15 different speeches given on Saturday, Mar. 28 at the REC Center from UAS students for this year's theme: healing. I would like to start by saying all of the participants did a thoroughly amazing job. There were some tough subjects opened up and discussed at this event. I admire all of the participants for having the courage to talk publicly about themselves and those subjects. The entire event was incredibly humbling and inspiring. The topic was healing, but really if you attended the event or participated it was a "better-than-therapy" experience.

For those of you who couldn't make it to the event, I'll give you a brief review of what the event was like. To begin with, there were some extraordinary folks who got to the REC Center pretty early on Saturday to set up the event. Kolene and Lyle James, Jenna Seyjagat-Hallenbeck, Lori Klein, and a couple others were the rock stars there from zero-hour. A big thank you goes out to them for their efforts to help set up the event! There were over 50 volunteers from various clubs and organizations in the community and UAS that contributed to making this event possible. Gunalchéesh (Tlingit), Háw'aa (Haida), T'oyk'shm (Tsimshian), Quayana (Yup'ik), thank you for making this event possible!

Daxkilatch (Kolene James) the Native and Rural Student Center (NRSC) Coordinator, was the emcee of the event and welcomed all the participants, judges, guest speakers, and audience at 10:15 a.m.

Daxkilatch kicked off the event by saying, "Students, thank you all. You are my heroes, really, you all inspire me so much." Her introduction was lovely and welcoming to all everyone at the event. Chancellor Pugh followed her welcoming, and he really stressed how UAS is committed to supporting indigenous ways of knowing and the various cultures of the students here at UAS. Pugh also mentioned how the university is always actively striving to keep our campus a place where students from any heritage and background feel welcome. Vice-Chancellor Joe Nelson and his young daughter, Nora, spoke to the audience next with words of encouragement.



**Participants, volunteers, and judges sit back and smile at the end of UAS' 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Oratory Competition.**

(Photograph provided by Kolene James)

"We are all working on it [oratory/public speaking], remember that we are all here to support each other through it too." Nelson said. 7 year-old, tri-language learner Nora gave a very inspiring short speech to the audience; she introduced herself and sang a song in Yup'ik. Seeing Nora's courage to go up, speak, and sing for us dulled the nerves throughout the room—if a 7 year-old can do it, surely all of our UAS student participants could do it too!

This event was completely structured around the healing, strengthening, and supportive facets the Oratory Competition offers to everyone involved. Xh'unei (Lance Twitchell) and Xeetlieesh (Lyle James) kicked off the introductions for the room. Everyone introduced themselves briefly, just so that there was an understanding of who was present. They acknowledged Chancellor Pugh for his dedication and service to helping decolonize UAS in his time here. Della Cheney, a Tlingit Elder from Kake, was a judge and guest speaker. She spoke to the audience on the power of thoughts and sharing our words with others, and how they have the ability to heal and strengthen.

The four categories in the event were Native Language, Dramatic Declamation, Story Telling, and Oratory. The speeches went from about 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., with an hour lunch break and 10 minute breaks between categories. There were tuition waivers given to participants whose scores tallied into the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Through this entire event, whether you placed or not it was a beautifully rewarding experience for all individuals involved. I'd say the Oratory Competition is by far one of the most influential and empowering events that I've been part of during my time here at UAS.

The Oratory Competition was originally founded through UAA, Dan Henry, and Janice Jackson. By keeping this event alive we keep the floor open for students to share information and talk about subjects they care about to each other, UAS, and the community of Juneau. Through oratory our voices are magnified and heard, through oratory we support and uplift each other, through oratory we learn and build foundations with each other, through oratory we come together.

## DO YOU WANT TO WRITE FOR THE WHALESONG?

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# — Spring into Cleaning —

**BY ALEXA CHERRY**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

Alright, admittedly the title is a little cheesy, but I know you know what I meant. We're approaching that most painful of yearly times: finals week, followed abruptly by spring semester move-out. Even if you've gone through move-out before, a reminder of the process involved doesn't hurt; for example, even if you're going to be staying at UAS Housing over the summer to work on campus, the likelihood is high that you'll still have to move somewhere else during said summer. While moving out over winter break simply involves tidying your living area and leaving everything roughly the way it always was, moving out over summer break involves removing all of your possessions and relocating them—whether it be to another dorm, apartment, or a storage facility.

Now in all likelihood, the last thing you want to be doing during finals weeks is panicking over both your finals and the state of your living space. I can tell you from personal experience that one

of the most stressful things in life is trying to pack up a messy environment. You don't know where everything is, you can't figure out what to pack for the summer and what to bring home, and it's generally distressing overall. So my advice to you is, start cleaning now! Here at the beginning of April, the last month in the school year, is a good time to prepare yourself for the move-out to come.



I would suggest you begin ("Mop Closet" by Robert S. Donovan. Photograph available via Flickr's Creative Commons. Printed in black and white.) space. If you live in an apartment, clean your room first. Once everything is aesthetically pleasing

and you can finally see your floor again, move on to other areas of your dorm or apartment. Clean up your stuff in the kitchen, the bathroom, the storage closet—and then move on to the consolidation aspect of things. Now that you know where everything is, it will be significantly easier to locate your possessions and decide which of them can stay and which ones need to go. Although I am the first person to acknowledge that culling your belongings is a difficult and painful process, I am also the first person to acknowledge that every time I move, I wish (at least on a subconscious level) that I had less stuff. UAS is not a campus built for the easy transportation of large, heavy boxes, something I become only too keenly aware of every time summer and fall roll around.

While mailing boxes of stuff home to your parents is definitely an option, I would also recommend just taking stock of things and considering what you really do and don't need or want. For example, if you want it but you don't need it at school with you, send it home. This is the case with most of the non-academic books I brought with me: while I do enjoy having my hardcover copy of *Les Misérables* in my room as a conversation piece and paperweight, the fact remains that given a choice between doing homework, sleeping, and reading *Les Mis*, I'm probably never going to choose the latter. Off home it goes, then. On the other hand, if you need something but you don't want it, it's probably a textbook and you paid too much money for it to get rid of it.

You can also save time and energy by taking boxes of clothes that you don't want to the thrift store, as well as simply boxing up things ahead of time. Half the stress of packing, at least for me, is deciding what I don't want to be able to have access to all summer. Therefore, it makes sense to go ahead and pack up your winter clothes, especially now that we're moving into the warmer months. (This entire winter was basically the "warmer months," but you know what I mean.) You can also make use of those heavy coats and extra blankets to bundle things like extra dishes and expensive toys—that fancy teapot you brought back from your exchange trip, for example, or that gaming system that you can't use at home for some reason. Now is the time to strategize and prepare, so that when move-out rolls around, you can be done before everyone else and sit back and relax while they continue to struggle. Or, you know, be a good friend and help them out. That's also an option.

In any case, I salute you all in your efforts, and wish you well in your cleaning and packing struggles. I hope you do the same regarding mine. Roommates, I know you read this paper. Where do we actually keep our cleaning supplies?

## Our MISSION is to register you for fall classes. See your advisor before you go on summer break!!

- Fall 2015 class schedule is viewable NOW
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- April 10<sup>th</sup>– Last day to withdraw
- April 20<sup>th</sup> – Fall 2015 open registration (all students)



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academic advisor is?

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# — The Sneeze —

**BY ALEXA CHERRY**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

Generally, if you tell someone about “Hendrickson 113,” they won’t know where you’re talking about right off the bat. If you tell them about “the theater classroom,” however, they’ll know what’s up—after all, there’s only one classroom on campus that has a stage in it! And as it turns out, that classroom is about to be nonexistent. There are plans for Hendrickson building to be remodeled and turned into administrative offices in the near future. This means that the theater classroom and any theater classes previously offered by the university are going to be nonexistent by the end of this semester. Bearing that in mind, you should know that the UAS Theater Department is planning, designing, and performing Anton Chekhov’s play *The Sneeze* this April—the final production to ever be shown in Hendrickson 113.

Written in the late 1800s, *The Sneeze* is a set of 8 one-act plays, chosen for their relation to each other and connected by a large overarching theme. While each play can stand by itself, there is a larger story that takes place when they are all viewed together. Written by a Russian and set in Russia, we Alaskans should be able to relate to characters in *The Sneeze* and how they are doing their best to put up with a dark, cold environment.

Performed by a hard-working class of theater students and directed by Christina Apathy, *The Sneeze* looks like it will be an excellent final production to grace the Hendrickson stage. The show premieres Friday, Apr. 17, and will also be shown on Apr. 18 and 19. All showings are at 7:30 p.m. in Hendrickson 113, and the price of admission is \$5 for students and \$10 general admission. I hope to see you there!



Felix Thillet and Zebadiah Bodine rehearse a scene for the UAS Theatre Department’s upcoming production of Anton Chekhov’s *The Sneeze*, directed by Christina Apathy.



Bryan Crowder reads a monologue from the script on stage.



Richard Ringle and Bryan Crowder strike a pose in the hallway outside Hendrickson 113.

(All photographs taken by Darin Donohue)

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# — Food Sovereignty: Herring —

**BY JASMINE MATTSON-WOLFF, Kóot Xheech**  
*For the UAS Whalesong*

Spring is here! I know this not because of the flocks of little birds singing, not because the lake is almost completely thawed, but because the herring are spawning! Herring are small fish that run through Southeast Alaska every spring. As in this year, they can start running as early as March.

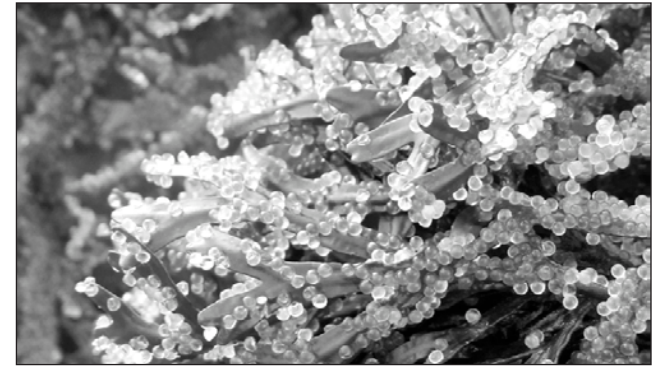
On Mar. 25 the community of Sitka was in quite the hustle and bustle over these little fish. Every day from Mar. 19-24, between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. the Sitka Sound Sac Roe Herring Fishery was open. This year's total harvest was 8,712 tons in seven days (one ton is 2,000 pounds). During the herring harvest time there are tons of purse seiner boats fishing; these boats have really big nets that are set around schools of herring and they scoop up tons of fish with every set. With so many boats fishing, you can see how the herring opening doesn't have to be very long before the quota for the year's harvest is reached.

The herring fishing that I am used to doesn't involve big purse seining boats. I'm used to fishing off the docks with a fishing pole, or in a rowboat with a net and buoy. Just because the commercial herring season is closed doesn't mean that the herring stop spawning or that people are done harvesting. People can still go out and set subsistence branches to collect

the herring eggs that are literally spawned on everything along the shoreline during this time. I say branches because the way I grew up harvesting herring eggs was with sets of hemlock bows. If you set hemlock bows on the right part of the shore where the herring are spawning, you just pick up your branches after the herring are done and go home with lots of eggs for your family and friends!

Harvesting herring is definitely one of the most fun forms of subsistence that I've done before. I remember the first time I set branches when I was seven. Out of all my family, I set my branch in the right place and ended up going home with the fullest branch of eggs to give to my grandma. It was such an exciting and rewarding moment! I also grew up, as I mentioned before, fishing off the docks for herring. Because herring are such little fish and they swim around in such tight schools, you have to use special hooks when fishing. They are called herring jigs. Herring jigs have anywhere from 3-9 delicate hooks on them, and the hooks are usually no larger than 1/4 of an inch. Since the jigs are so light you always need a good weight on the end of your line. This is the trick to successful herring jigging off the dock: you want it to be heavy enough so your line doesn't float, but not too heavy because you need the herring to want to bite. You can snag them, but it's much more rewarding when you can have them chase after your hook and bite.

Herring, although they are a small fish, are a very important part of our ecosystem here in Southeast Alaska. They are not only a source of food, but also of bait and aid when



(“Herring Roe” by Jeannette S. Photograph available via Flickr’s Creative Commons. Printed in black and white.)

it comes to other kinds of fishing. Without herring what would we be? We'd be hungrier and deprived of the bigger fish like salmon. So be sure to take time to respect and appreciate the little pieces of our bigger equations that provide us with more than we realize.

If you are curious about what herring eggs taste like definitely stop by the NRSC in the lower level of Mourtan on Apr. 17 between 1-2 p.m. for the Food Sovereignty: Herring Eggs!

“Remember, you are what you eat, so don't be fast, cheap, easy, or fake!”

Some of the information for this article was retrieved from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/>.

# — Philosophical Traditions: Bad Faith —

**BY DANIEL PISCOYA**  
*For the UAS Whalesong*

Imagine for a moment a fictional cashier at our local grocery store, who is the most zealous and committed cashier you have ever had the misfortune to encounter. This cashier in your mind's eye has seemingly devoted his (let us call the cashier a man) entire life and free time to becoming the best cashier there ever was. If the A-Team needed a grocery store cashier, they would choose this guy. If the CIA ever needed a civilian consultant on checkout stands, they would show up at this guy's house.

At closer inspection, however, our zealous cashier is an incredibly disturbing individual. This is not because of anything outside of his job, but rather purely because there seems to be nothing outside of his job. This is not to say that the man literally eats, sleeps, and showers in the break room of his grocery store. Rather, it seems like he does. It seems that, when the man is on shift, he becomes the ideal cashier—he acts the part out, so to speak. For the period of time that he is behind his checkout stand, this man thinks of himself as nothing more than a cashier—it becomes his whole identity. He is only playing the part—and he realizes this, but for the duration of this man's shift, he chooses to make his job the all-in-all of who he is.

Jean-Paul Sartre (pronounced 'Jon- Paul Sart'), a  
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famous philosopher in existentialism, would say that our zealous cashier is in a state of self-deception termed 'Bad Faith.'

Bad Faith, as a term, has little to do with a religious faith as we commonly think of it today. Bad Faith, which is a phrase coined by Sartre, is a method of self-deception that essentially denies human freedom. To put it in his vocabulary, Bad Faith is the act of fleeing one's ability to transcend one's facticity.

Now, let's break this down. Facticity, in the way Sartre is using the word, simply means all of the factors that influence a person's life. It is all of the conditions of life. In a sense, these factors limit what one may do with one's life. For instance, our zealous cashier is a cashier—he has that specific occupation, and it influences the rest of his life.

However, facticity, while it may influence life and limit it to a certain degree, never actually forces anyone to live in a certain way. Sartre held firm to the notion that, despite circumstances, the ability to choose always remains. He called this transcendence. We, as human beings, says Sartre, are more than our circumstances—we have the ability to transcend our facticity. The cashier is (and can be) more than just a cashier. It's not who he is underneath, but what he does that defines him.

Transcendence, however, comes to us painfully. It implies

a negation of what we are in favor of what we can be. If we are going to transcend our facticity (to be more than our circumstances) we must, in a sense, negate or deny our circumstances. In order for our zealous cashier to be more than just a cashier—in order for him to be a free-agent in the world—he has to break his façade of the perfect cashier at some point. He cannot be afraid of the raw possibility that exists outside of his social function.

But fear is normal for us humans. Bad Faith, in response to facticity and the possibility of transcendence, is a denial of transcendence and an embrace of facticity. So the person in Bad Faith fools him or herself into thinking that they are only their social function or role and nothing more. Our zealous cashier is in Bad Faith because he does not think of himself as able to be anything more. He is playing at being a cashier, but not actually choosing to take on the role as a free choice of his own. And if what he does defines him, he is an actor playing a script not of his own making—he is a puppet.

Of course, just because Bad Faith exists in the form of role-playing does not mean that roles are bad in themselves. It just means that, in order to be an authentic living being, we must balance roles with freedom, and transcendence with faith. In other words, it is completely ok to be the perfect cashier, so long as doing so is a conscious and deliberately thought-out choice.



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# — Swing Low, Sweet Housing Rates —

**BY DANIEL PISCOYA**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

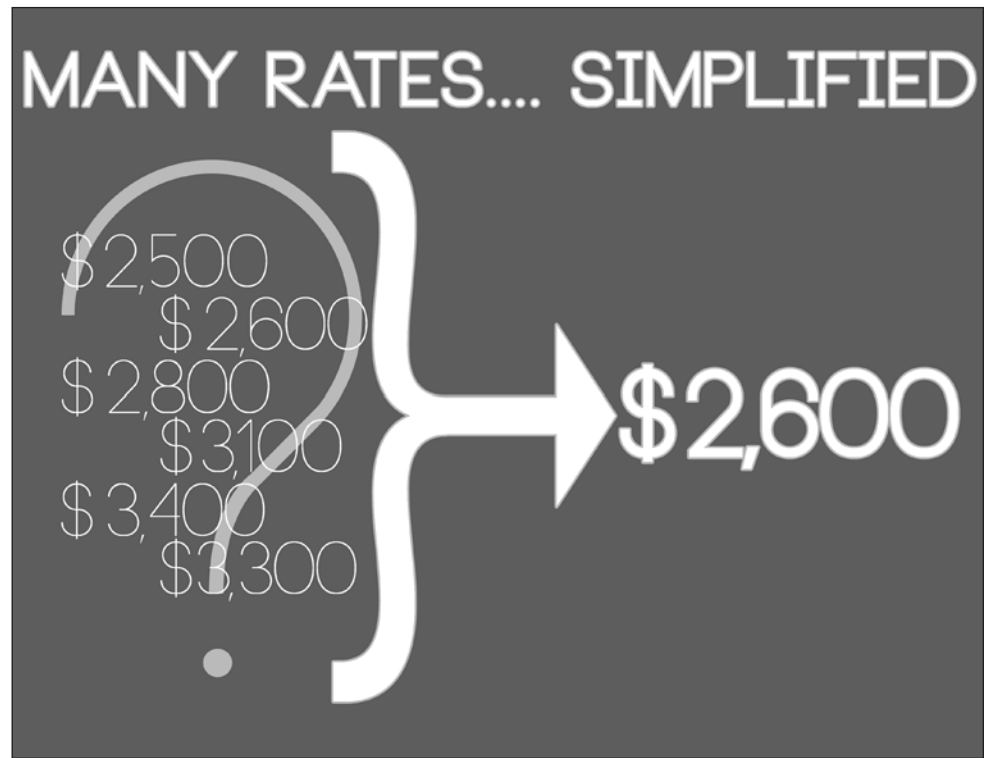
There is no getting around it: Juneau is an expensive place to live. No matter where or what your situation is, it is going to cost more to live here in Juneau than most places you can go. The greater part of UAS Student Housing, however, despite possible budget cuts and rising tuition rates, is reducing its prices for the 2015-16 school year.

In a series of plans that have extended since last summer, the UAS Housing Department has reduced the cost of on-campus housing to a flat rate for all rooms. Starting this summer, a standard room in either a residence hall or an apartment will cost \$2,600 a semester. There are exceptions to this flat rate, of course, which involve whether or not students request a private room. However, this flat rate—aimed specifically at upperclassmen, significantly reduces the cost of housing in apartments. For a student living in a four-bedroom apartment now, the cost will be \$1,000 lower next year. For a new student, the total cost of living in the Freshman Residence Hall will remain about the same as it was this year, but this year's freshmen will feel the change when they become sophomores and move into a newly renovated Banfield Hall.

Paul Dorman, Associate Director of Residence Life, explains that, in order to make next year's sophomores' living space a more comfortable and useful one, Banfield is being given a new kitchen and commons. During this school year (and continuing during this summer) construction crews have been working in the first floor of Banfield to transform the old TV and study rooms into a larger kitchen and secondary common area for students. This means that, while it may take some time for today's freshmen to get used to a \$600 meal plan, they will have plenty of space and resources to cook meals of their own. This may help ease the transition and further foster the sophomore housing community.

Another big change happening around housing is the amount of dining dollars residents must buy with their room. Again, this change is most significant in upperclassman, but it still exists in freshmen and sophomores. While at this time, sophomores through seniors are required to purchase a \$600 meal plan, next year juniors and seniors will only be required to purchase a \$200, while sophomores in Banfield, as I have hinted at earlier, remain at \$600. The freshman meal plan will be reduced from \$1,675 to \$1,600. This change is in response to the unexpected increase in revenue from the new Lakeside Grill. There has been a remarkable number of staff who have purchased meal plans, as well as a good amount of commuter students who eat there. Overall, the reduction of meal plan amounts seems to be made up by the popularity of the place.

All of these changes, says Dorman, are meant to encourage current residents to remain within housing and to invite upperclassmen who live off housing to consider moving in.



**Starting this summer, a standard room in either a residence hall or an apartment will cost \$2,600 a semester.**

**(Graphic provided by Paul Dorman)**

According to the Housing Department, overall there will be no change in quality of service or in services offered. The drop in price, while significant to individual students, would only mandate less than a 10% increase in residents for the Housing Department to make up the losses.

At this point, however, it's not about the money. It's about sending a message: UAS Housing is a good deal, and highly available. When speaking to the *Whalesong*, Paul Dorman put it succinctly: "People come up to me and ask: 'What's the catch?' I reply: there is no catch." Housing simply wants to retain the student residence it has, and encourage more to come, if possible, and "if it costs a few dollars to do that, that's ok."

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# — “Insolent Detergent” AKA *Insurgent* —

**BY ALEXA CHERRY**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

The second film in the *Divergent* series, *Insurgent*, came out this past week, and I went to go see it because I prefer watching young adults pretend to be teenagers and make bad decisions to reading profound literature and bettering myself as a human being. For those of you who have never heard of the *Divergent* series, let me fill you in. As per usual in the young adult post-apocalypse drama, humanity was spiraling down the toilet of social and political disruption into the sewers of outright revolt. Then, someone had the bright idea of differentiating all of humanity into five separate factions: Abnegation (post-apocalypse Amish), Amity (post-apocalypse hippies), Candor (post-apocalypse lawyers), Dauntless (post-apocalypse juvenile delinquents), and Erudite (post-apocalypse nerds). When you turn sixteen, you have to take an aptitude test that determines which faction you would best fit into. Not that the test really matters in the long run, since you aren't forced to choose a particular faction, regardless of your test results. It's just passive-aggressively encouraged and enforced by the judgment of the entire culture.

Of course, in the tradition of young adult post-apocalypses, along comes a beautiful Caucasian protagonist who simply doesn't fit into any of these molds. Her aptitude test shows that she has more than one dimension to her personality—she's brave, like a Dauntless, but also brutally honest and critical, like a Candor, but also attuned with nature, like an Amity. This makes her a Divergent, and because post-apocalypse Chicago has no place for anyone who doesn't fit into one of their strange, color-coded cliques, she's sent on the run and eventually ends up being discovered for what she is and chased by the government. But this article isn't about that movie. It's about the second movie.

I have dubbed the second movie “Insolent Detergent” rather than its actual title, *Insurgent*, because there seem to be two plots going on at once. The first is the one you think the movie is about: Tris (the main character), her boyfriend Four (whom

I shall henceforth fondly refer to as Breathly McJawline), and their horde of definitely-not-in-their-mid-20's teenagers face off against Evil Suburban Mom #1 (Jeanine, the leader of the Erudite) and later, Evil Suburban Mom #2 (Four's estranged mother) in their attempt to control the government and kill everyone who doesn't fit in.

The second, more subtle, plot seems to be the aim of everyone in post-apocalyptic Chicago to corner the bleach market. Jeanine, for example, proclaims to believe in all things natural. That's why she hates Divergents so much—she thinks they're not natural. Well, Jeanine, I hate to break it to you, but your eyebrows don't match your platinum-blond hair. Perhaps re-evaluate your bleach job before criticizing the rest of the world. And Jeanine has nothing on Jack Kang, the leader of Candor. Perhaps in a further attempt to illustrate how honest and just they are, Candor's faction color is white, and no one wears more white than their majestic leader. We can tell he's majestic because his flunkies are clearly smitten with him; Four tries to get close to Kang at one point and no less than three grown men slam him into the floor while shouting, as Kang turns from fifteen feet away to gaze speculatively at the scenario. At the end of the movie, Kang is shown in the brightest white clothes I've ever seen gazing out through a window, and not a single speck of dust or one of his jet-black hairs is to be seen on his suit. I imagine one of his worshipful subordinates was standing behind him, shining a light on the suit to make it look even whiter. Clearly, if you possess bleach in post-apocalypse Chicago, you are a person of power.

This movie definitely had its weak points. There was some truly bad writing in places (“If you die, I die”), nonsensical costuming (at one point, Tris strips off her zip-up tank top to reveal that she has been running around kicking ass without a bra), a fairly large plot hole (why did she have to beat all the tests when she's a Divergent and passed them with flying colors in .5 seconds in the first movie), and an ancient, unnecessary video game trope used in place of actual character development (the words “You're not me!” were actually said).

One thing I did enjoy about this movie was the role reversal. Generally, in YA fiction, we are shown a couple with a strong, masculine young man who is good at everything and protects the female protagonist as she does her best. But the girl is still usually the sensitive one, and the guy is always better, tortured, and stoic.

In *Insurgent*, Tris plays the part of the tortured stoic. Not ten minutes into the movie, she determines that the best course of action is to kill Jeanine, and anyone else who gets in her way. She has a lot of drama regarding the untimely death of “everyone who gets near me,” something I usually only hear characters like Christopher Nolan's interpretation of Bruce Wayne wheezing about. She's hot, she's hard to get to know, and she's perpetually pissed off.

Four, who is built like a semi truck and has a rock-solid jawline that I imagine you can only attain by chewing everything you eat really hard, spends a lot of time being sensitive and doing a lot of heavy breathing. When Tris says “Let's kill everyone,” he suggests forming an alliance. He tries to negotiate with aggressive train passengers and Tris shoves a girl under the wheels. When Tris is having an existential crisis, Four comes to her and heaves his bosom while telling her that everything will probably be okay. He hurls himself repeatedly against reinforced prison cell glass while shrieking her name in a manner worthy of Bella Swan. Tris books it up a ladder to save someone from falling to their death, while Four stands on the ground, breathes hard, heaves his bosom, and practically swoons. My point is that while Tris is BAMF-ing about the place, Four is writing her name in his journal with little hearts around it and fantasizing about the next time she deigns to make eye contact with him, and that's pretty great.

Overall, I can't say that I would recommend *Insurgent* if you want a truly epic film experience. But if you'd like a memorable film experience full of attractive people (my heart belongs to Jack Kang, and I want to be on his Jack Kang Defense Squad), really impressive graphics, and a six-foot-plus man with muscles of steel acting like a delicate Southern belle, *Insurgent* is the movie you need to watch.

# — Study Abroad Students Come Full Circle —

**BY UAS EXCHANGES & STUDY ABROAD**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

In February, students from all three MAUs congregated in Fairbanks for the second bi-annual study abroad Alaska Returnee Conference. The mission of the conference is to cultivate and support the growth of students as global citizens by encouraging them to reflect upon and appreciate their recently acquired international experience.

The conference sessions and activities covered meaningful articulation of experiences, strategies for reverse culture shock, constructing and internationalizing a resume, identifying skills obtain while abroad, and future educational endeavors, community involvement, and volunteering abroad. Greg Wolf, Plenary speaker and the Executive Director of the World Trade Center of Alaska, shared his knowledge and research behind

Alaska's role in the international marketplace and how Alaskans can take part in both commercial and cultural opportunities.

The Academic Exchange and Study Abroad office would like to thank the Chancellor's Office and UAS Student Government for their financial support. Each UAS student involved noted that the travel grants made the conference possible for them, and indeed they found the day to be valuable and enriching.

UAS study abroad participant Mel Scriven commented that the conference was a very positive experience for her. She also noted:

“During the conference, I was able to meet other students who had studied and lived in another country for a year or semester, and while talking to them about our different experiences it helped me to process and think about what I learned about myself and the world. Sharing our thoughts on adjustment and reverse culture shock allowed for a great sense of community. I now

feel better prepared to present information on my study abroad, whether to an employer or a casual friend.”



**UAS student, Mel Scriven, studied and lived in France during the Fall 2014 semester.**

(Photograph provided by Mel Scriven)

# — Summer Break: Home Again —

**BY ALEXA CHERRY**

*For the UAS Whalesong*

A weird thing about college is that while you're off slamming out papers, staying up all night studying, and binging on Netflix, life continues to go on at home. This is something that we're all aware of, to a degree, but you don't really think about it until you're back at home for a break and you realize that while things might seem the same, they're kind of different. I mention this because we have summer break coming up, and summer break in college is different from summer break in high school for several reasons.

At least when I was in high school, summer break was a time to relax and feel free from academic obligations and any type of responsibility. (Until I got a car and had to work so I could pay for gas, but I'm talking about before that.) The school year would get out, and I would chill with friends and family, play with the dogs, be mostly unproductive, and no one would care.

In college, however, your family is used to you being off doing things all the time, so they get into a routine of their own that's probably different from what you were used to in high school. This isn't to say that they don't want you back—of course they do—but maybe they

made plans for home renovations, got a pet, took up afternoon calisthenics, who knows! These are all things you have to deal with when you return. And over summer break, your family will probably expect you to get a job. When I was 15, it was fine for me to spend my summer sleeping in and goofing off; now that I'm a college student, my parents are willing to help me out financially, but only if I help myself out first. I'm using myself as an example because I don't want to generalize other peoples' parents, but I imagine a lot of you are in the same boat.

Not that being busy over the summer is a bad thing. In high school, you're used to your home routine, so it's fine and dandy to be at home all the time. In college, things have probably changed, so being at home all the time might feel kind of uncomfortable. Plus, a summer job means extra money, which can hardly hurt. Even if college isn't breaking your bank that much, it never hurts to have that cash on hand when something crops up that you want to spend money on.

Summer break at home is also a good time to try new things. Instead of going straight to and from work and home, or out to your usual hangouts with friends, try hitting up that niche coffee shop that you always see on your drive! Order a different kind of sandwich at the restaurant your family orders from on Friday nights. Try

those calisthenics lessons with your parents. Order at Taco Bell as often as possible (this may not be new, but we don't have a Taco Bell here in Juneau, so it's important that you get it while the getting's good).

Overall, try to embrace the change you might see happening in your family life. Things might be different, but it doesn't have to be a bad different! As my mom always says, the job of parents is to work themselves out of a job. Plus, now that they are no longer your protective overseer, they can become your protective friends. Did you turn 21 while you were at college? See if your mom or dad wants to go to the bar with you. Hey, it's not as lame as it sounds. They've been around longer than you, they know what's good for the drinking. Ask them for their advice on job hunting, both during the summer and after college. Criticize their home decorating taste (if they were going to remodel the kitchen without you, it's only right that you should make them aware of their mistake). And spend as much time with that new pet as possible so that it doesn't forget you when you go away again in 4 months.

You can do it, guys. We can do it. We can get through this together. In the meantime, I have to call my parents and ask exactly what they have in mind regarding the new carpeting they want to put down. My dad is colorblind, after all, and one doesn't want to come home to mauve floors.

# Want to read more?

## Find previous issues of the Whalesong online at:

[www.uas.alaska.edu/juneau/activities/whalesong/](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/juneau/activities/whalesong/)



# CAMPUS CALENDAR

## OFF CAMPUS

MONDAY, APR. 6

**Taku Toastmasters Club**, 12:05 p.m., Federal Building. Improve your public speaking skills in a supportive environment. Newcomers welcome! Meetings are held in Room 541 of the Federal Building. For more information, contact Velja at 907-321-4988.

**Tlingit Language Learner's Group**, 6 p.m., Downtown Juneau Public Library. Interested in learning the Tlingit language? This group, run by Tlingit language learners, is free and open to everyone in the community, regardless of language experience. We meet Mondays at the downtown Juneau Public Library from 6-7 p.m. For more information, email [tlingitlearners@gmail.com](mailto:tlingitlearners@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAY, APR. 8

**Write For Your Life**, 10 a.m., Mendenhall

Valley Library. The "Write For Your Life" group meets from 10-11 a.m. every Wednesday to share journal entries, memoir, letters, or poetry. For more information, contact Dixie at 907-789-2068.

THURSDAY, APR. 9

**Community Gaming Night**, 5:30 p.m., Udder Culture. Shouldn't Juneau have a community gaming group? Of course! Now we do! This is an open video game group that gets together every week at Udder Culture. We play a variety of video games and are open to playing on any platform (Wii, PS3, PS4, Xbox360, Xbox One, etc.). Be sure to stop by and enjoy great food and company at the Udder Culture as well! All ages are welcome! (If you are a minor you will need to get a parent's permission to play, because we play a lot of games rated "M") Email Greg Frank for more information at [greg.r.frank@gmail.com](mailto:greg.r.frank@gmail.com).

**Friends of Recycling Annual Meeting**, 6 p.m., Mendenhall Valley Public Library.

We will celebrate recycling accomplishments in Juneau, discuss the mission of the group, and take nominations for officers. For more information about this event contact Nancy Waterman at 907-586-1426 or Linda Deakins at 907-789-3803.

FRIDAY, APR. 10

**Organ Concert**, 12 p.m., State Office Building Atrium. Concerts on the Kimball Theatre Organ at the State Office Building take place most Fridays during the noon hour.

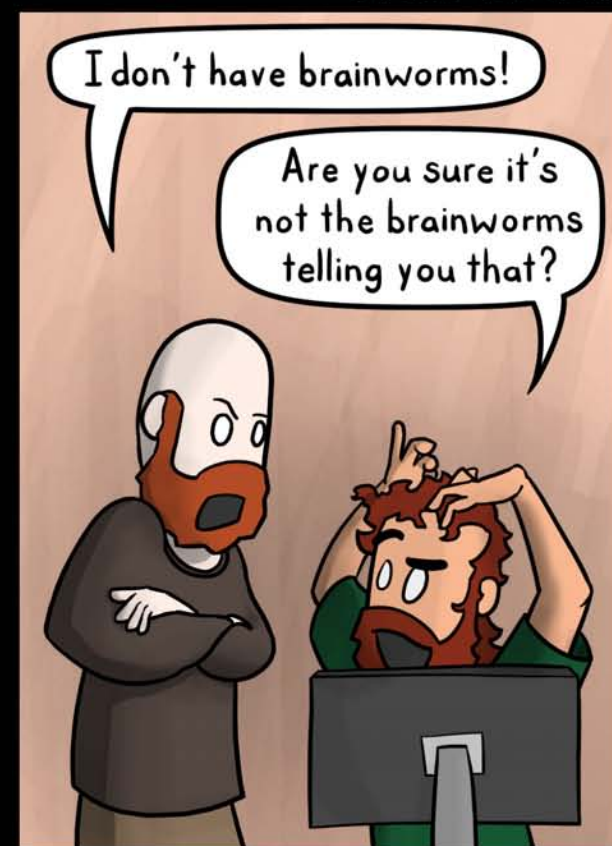
**Anne of Green Gables**, 7 p.m., McPhetres Hall. Theater at Latitude 58 presents L.M. Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*. When Anne Shirley, a redheaded orphan with an out-sized imagination, comes to live with Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert by mistake, none of their lives will ever be the same. Tickets cost \$15 Adult and \$10 Students at the door. Tickets are available on Vendini, at Hearthside Books, and at the door.

SATURDAY, APR. 11

**Game Day at the Library**, 11 a.m., Mendenhall Valley Public Library. Celebrate International Tabletop Day with us! A wide variety of tabletop and board games will be available, but folks are welcome to bring their own. Come learn how to play something new, or enjoy an old favorite. While all ages are welcome, available games are rated for ages 8 to adult. Snacks and games provided by the Friends of the Juneau Public Library and Platypus Gaming.

**Anne of Green Gables**, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., McPhetres Hall. Theater at Latitude 58 presents L.M. Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*. When Anne Shirley, a redheaded orphan with an out-sized imagination, comes to live with Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert by mistake, none of their lives will ever be the same. Tickets cost \$15 Adult and \$10 Students at the door. Tickets are available on Vendini, at Hearthside Books, and at the door.

## Alaska Robotics



## Brain Worms

# CAMPUS CALENDAR

## ON CAMPUS

### MONDAY, APR. 6

**Fall 2015 Registration Begins**, All Day, UAS. Priority registration for Program Students starts today. For more information contact [registrar@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:registrar@uas.alaska.edu).

**Open Gym: Dodgeball**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Ready to flash-back to grade school? Head over to drop-in dodgeball. It's fast, it's fun, and it's at the REC. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6100.

**Zumba**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Party yourself into shape at the REC! Feel the music, let loose, and dance the pounds and inches off! No experience is necessary. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

### TUESDAY, APR. 7

**Student Government Spring 2015 Meetings**, 8:30 a.m., Glacier View Room. Get Involved! Got questions regarding UAS? Come check out a Student Government Meeting. UAS Student Government, the official student government of the University of Alaska Southeast, is responsible for representing student interests to the college administration and for facilitating the organization of a broad range of student committees that work to address issues and concerns and promote services that enhance students' experience at UAS. A significant responsibility of the UAS Student Government is to initiate and act upon legislation including proposals to appropriate USUAS-JC Funds as well as serving on at least two USUAS-JC standing committees. For more information send an email to [jypres@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jypres@uas.alaska.edu).

**Open Gym: Basketball**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Join your friends or make friends playing basketball at the REC. All skill levels welcome! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

April 6 - 19, 2015

### WEDNESDAY, APR. 8

**Open Gym: Volleyball**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Join your friends or make friends playing volleyball at the REC. All skill levels welcome! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

**Zumba**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Party yourself into shape at the REC! Feel the music, let loose, and dance the pounds and inches off! No experience is necessary. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

**Ultimate Frisbee**, 9 p.m., Dimond Park Fieldhouse. Join us at the Dimond Park Fieldhouse for a pick-up game of Ultimate. No experience necessary! Just be prepared to have fun! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

### THURSDAY, APR. 9

**Open Gym: Soccer**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Join your friends or make friends playing soccer at the REC. A fast paced, fun sport. All skill levels welcome! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

**Circuit Training**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Join us for full body conditioning or resistance training using high-intensity aerobics. We'll target strength building and muscular endurance. An exercise "circuit" is one completion of all prescribed exercises in the program. When one circuit is complete, one begins the first exercise again for the next circuit. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

### FRIDAY, APR. 10

**Race and Gender Bias in Evaluative Contexts with Dr. Monica Biernat**, 4 p.m., Egan Lecture Hall. Dr. Monica Biernat from the University of Kansas will give a talk on "Race and gender bias in evaluative contexts." For more information contact 796-6530.

### SATURDAY, APR. 11

**SAA Dinner & Movie**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Dinner and a Movie is FREE for UAS Student Alumni Association members with PURPLE SAA stickers on back of ID. \$5 for Nonmembers & Guests. Movies are selected by Student Alumni Board at their regular meetings. If there's something you'd like to see, drop us a line! For more information send an email to [alumni@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:alumni@uas.alaska.edu) or call the Student Alumni Association at 796-6569.

**REC Closures**, All Day, Recreation Center. The REC Center will be closed, during the following dates for the joint use by the Alaska Army National Guard. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

### SUNDAY, APR. 12

**Intercultural Training, Studies, and Travel**, 7 p.m., UAS Housing Lodge. Learn how to become an effective intercultural leader with SIT Student Ambassador Jessica McLaughlin and find out what it is like to study away with UAS student Brittini Wisner. For more info send an email to [exchanges@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:exchanges@uas.alaska.edu) or call the Exchanges and Study Abroad office at 796-6455.

### MONDAY, APR. 13

**Art Meets Science: Cultures & Environment of Southeast Alaska**, 1:30 p.m., Glacier View Room. Join us in the Glacier View Room (Egan 222) for student presentations moderated by Robin Walz, X'unei Lance Twitchell, and Kolene James. For more information send an email to [rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu) or call 796-6433.

**Open Gym: Dodgeball**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Ready to flash-back to grade school? Head over to drop-in dodgeball. It's fast, it's fun, and it's at the REC. For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6100.

### TUESDAY, APR. 14

**Student Government Spring 2015 Meetings**, 8:30 a.m., Glacier View Room. Get Involved! Got questions regarding UAS?

Come check out a Student Government Meeting. UAS Student Government, the official student government of the University of Alaska Southeast, is responsible for representing student interests to the college administration and for facilitating the organization of a broad range of student committees that work to address issues and concerns and promote services that enhance students' experience at UAS. A significant responsibility of the UAS Student Government is to initiate and act upon legislation including proposals to appropriate USUAS-JC Funds as well as serving on at least two USUAS-JC standing committees. For more information send an email to [jypres@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jypres@uas.alaska.edu).

**Art Meets Science: Creative Activity - Finding Purpose**, 3:30 p.m., Glacier View Room. Join us in the Glacier View Room (Egan 221) for student presentations moderated by Richard Simpson. For more information send an email to [rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu) or call 796-6433.

**Open Gym: Basketball**, 7 p.m., Recreation Center. Join your friends or make friends playing basketball at the REC. All skill levels welcome! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu) or call the REC Center staff at 796-6544.

**Art Meets Science: Creative Activity - Four Poets**, 7:30 p.m., Egan Lecture Hall. Join us in the Egan Lecture Hall (Egan 112) for student readings moderated by Nina Chordas. For more information send an email to [rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rrwalz@uas.alaska.edu) or call the 796-6433.

### WEDNESDAY, APR. 15

**Ultimate Frisbee**, 9 p.m., Dimond Park Fieldhouse. Join us at the Dimond Park Fieldhouse for a pick-up game of Ultimate. No experience necessary! Just be prepared to have fun! For more information send an email to [rec\\_center@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec_center@uas.alaska.edu).

**Want to see your event listed in our calendar? Send us all the details about your program and we'll help you get the word out!**



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